

UP NORTH | WHERE RECRUITS BECOME WARRIORS



Pvt. David Basye, Platoon 1009, Company A, prepares to join his squad for the 12-Stall obstacle event during the Crucible at Edson Range, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif. See story and photos, pg. 4. Pfc. Charlie Chavez/Chevron

Commanding General's Labor Day message 2006

As we approach Labor Day 2006, Samuel Gompers (founder and longtime president of the American Federation of Labor) reminds us that "All other holidays are in a more or less degree connected with conflicts and battles of man's prowess over man, of strife and discord for greed and power, of glories achieved by one nation over another. Labor Day ... is devoted to no man, living or dead, to no sect, race, or nation." It is truly a celebration of the social and economic achievements of the worker.

Labor Day was first celebrated on Tuesday, September 5, 1882 in New York City to recognize the contributions of working people. The Marines, Sailors, and Coast Guardsmen aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot/Western Recruiting Region are joined by our civilian Marines in celebrating our contribution of our job providing security to preserve the American way of life.

During this Labor Day, reflect upon your contributions, and affirm your core values of honor, courage, and commitment to making the weekend safe. Decisively use Operational Risk Management in all your weekend event planning. Carefully consider your choices and make the best decisions

to safely celebrate the holiday weekend. Do not allow yourself or your friends to become a statistic. Ensure that Labor Day remains a day of celebrating your hard work and the labor of those who have gone before, not a day when you were involved in an incident. Don't drink and drive or allow your friends to drink and drive; use designated drivers.

You are our greatest asset, part of America's continued plan for success. Our mission is only successful when you make decisions reflecting a well-constructed plan. Be mindful of your activities and celebrate our daily contribution to our nation, which results in producing the world's finest warriors, United States Marines. Have a safe and memorable holiday.

Semper Fidelis,

A. Salinas

A. Salinas
Brigadier General,
U.S. Marine Corps

Ukraine seeks to improve training via depot visit

BY LANCE CPL. ROBERT W. BEAVER
Chevron Staff

Several guests made a formal visit to the depot Aug. 17, as part of the International Visitor Leadership Program.

Four Ukrainians and a Russian delegate witnessed part of the transformation process and learned how Marines are made.

Some of the visitors hold high positions within several Ukrainian courts from levels of local, state and military. Also accompanying them were two translators to bridge the language gap between Marines and the visitors.

The IVLP is dedicated to building mutual understanding between the U.S. and foreign countries through detailed visits focused on visitor interests and to generate support for U.S. foreign policy goals. These visits are funded and administered by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

A visit typically lasts three weeks and includes tours to different areas throughout the country.

They saw recruits from 3rd Recruit Training Battalion performing Marine Corps Martial Arts and pugil sticks then visited the depot swim tank. Staff Sgt. Michael D. Bass, chief drill instructor for Company B, walked the delegates through the process of swim qualifications and what recruits must do to graduate.

Ukraine has had some problems with hazing and requested an IVLP to see what they could do differently in the way of improving human rights. The delegates'

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A group of Ukrainian visitors watches recruits train with pugil sticks in the Thunder Dome here. Lance Cpl. Robert W. Beaver/Chevron



VOTING INFORMATION

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RECRUIT SPOTLIGHT

He didn't go with his dad to the embassy for "Take-Your-Son-to-Work-Day," but two of his friends did. That day, the embassy was bombed.

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The Chevron spotlights the depot's plucky, good-natured sports coordinator.

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Veteran’s Council honors troops at Bali Hai dinner

BY LANCE CPL. ROBERT BEAVER
Chevron staff

Service members were treated to a free meal Aug. 16 at one of San Diego’s premiere hot spots, the Bali Hai restaurant, courtesy of the United Veteran’s Council of San Diego.

The warrior dinner was held for veterans who returned from Operation Iraqi Freedom. Many veterans were at the event to show their support for service members.

“When we came home from Vietnam, we didn’t receive a warm welcome home,” said Joe Brunner, chairman of the UVC

of San Diego. “We want to make sure that they get the welcome home they deserve while hoping they continue the tradition for the next generation of service members.”

The dinner was not a night for ceremony or speeches, but only to honor the young men and women who made the sacrifice for their country, according to Brunner.

The council’s leftover funds from the dinner will be donated to the Marine Corps League, which in turn will use the money to financially assist veterans who return from war, said Brunner.

Brunner, a retired Navy master chief

with 20 years experience as a high speed Morse Code operator and a tour with Marines in Vietnam, said the Veteran’s Affairs was not up to par when he returned home from war. As a result, he and other Vietnam veterans did something about it.

“When I got home the VA was not exactly the friendliest in the world,” Brunner said. “That has changed.”

The UVC of San Diego say they are, “The voice of the San Diego Veterans Community.” According to Brunner, they act almost as a liaison with between the VA and the individual veterans.

For more information on UVC sponsored events, log on to www.sduvc.org.

Depot Marines train for red tabs

BY LANCE CPL. JAMES GREEN
Chevron staff

Four depot Marines completed seven rigorous weeks of the most challenging martial arts training offered in the Marine Corps in Quantico, Va., at the Martial Arts Center of Excellence July 6.

Staff Sgt. Aaron Colling, Sgt. David Dobson, Sgt. Jason M. Zeise and Sgt. Michael V. Martin graduated from the Instructor Trainer Course, a course that certifies martial arts instructors to train students to become instructors.

Colling, a native of Phoenix, and Martin a native of St. Louis are both martial arts instructors; Zeise, who hails from Sobieski, Wis., and Dobson, originally from San Jose, Calif., are water survival instructors aboard the depot.

The Marines who attended the course were taught everything instructor-based for each of the five belts offered through the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program. The Marines were taught about the background of the martial arts they were learning as well.

As one of the course requirements, the Marines were tasked with writing an essay on the history of a specific martial arts culture assigned to them to demonstrate their knowledge of what they were going through, said Martin.

Not only were the Marines evaluated on their performance, but also on their character, on and off duty. They learned the necessary Marine Corps traits that would help them to be mentors and establish a better relationship between junior and senior Marines.

To participate in the class, the Marines had to be martial arts instructors ranging from green (the third MCMAP belt) through black belt. As an instructor, a Marine can authorize other Marines to advance in belts, but he can not certify them to be instructors.

“Being an instructor allows a Marine to do his part for the Marine Corps,” said Zeise. “Having the skills only benefits you, but teaching those skills to others benefits everyone.”

Once a Marine becomes an instructor by completing the Instructors Course as a “green-belt” instructor, he can attend ITC for more advanced training. At ITC, Marines go through several combat conditioning and bayonet assault courses that assist them in their combat skills, and make them more proficient as trainers and combat leaders.

The Marines also learned about rest, nutrition and how important their roles are in training.

“The course taught me everything from leadership to adversity from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily,” said Martin. “We learned the history of



Sgt. Michael V. Martin shows his instructor tab. Lance Cpl. James Green/Chevron

martial arts, along with its present and future advancements.”

Using MCMAP as a way to teach leadership is becoming an alternative to learning how to be a leader as opposed to learning through text books and noncommissioned officer courses, said Martin.

MCMAP allows Marines to go through the combat conditioning that allows them to adapt and overcome obstacles presented in a war-time situation.

Everything at the course is combat orientated; meaning each technique and movement is based on an actual combat scenario. The Marines conducted the movements wearing a full combat load, including a flak jacket, rifle, Kevlar, a pack and deuce gear – weighing about 120 pounds – for up to four hours a day, said Martin.

“Other than combat, this was the most physically challenging thing I went through so far,” said Zeise.

To make the program work successfully, everyone had to do their part. Leading by example and knowing the men by their sides helped the four Marines from the depot make it through one of the hardest courses they were confronted with during their time in the Marine Corps.

“When you look to your left and right and see men and women who all have the common goal of bettering themselves, you realize those are the people you want to be in the fight with,” said Martin.

As the course came to an end, a more productive future became present for the depot Marines who chose to further their skills as warriors on and off the battlefield.

They graduated as a single class rather than as individuals, which is a good example of the Marine Corps’ unit cohesion, and stepped off to pass on the knowledge they gained to motivated Marines who will decide to follow their example as well-rounded warriors.

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interest was directed toward the Marine Corps policy on hazing.

In a 2005 report on Ukrainian human rights practices released by the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor, Human Rights for Ukraine, all aspects of hazing weren’t evident. Police officers would often harm detainees and some would murder others for their political motivations. Hazing in the military was also cause for some of the soldiers’ deaths.

Ukrainian human rights groups claimed many reports of suicides as a fault of hazing. Ukrainian officials denied the claim and blamed the deaths on family related-problems, according to the report.

“They have issues with hazing in their military,” said Capt. Stephen T. Jones, operations officer, G-3. “They came here so that we might help them learn how to deal with it.”

Although the main focus of the visit was on hazing, the delegates also came to

witness how the Marine Corps trains its men.

During an open forum later in the morning, Lt. Col. Brian D. Kerl, commanding officer of 1st Recruit Training Battalion, led a board consisting of military justice officers, and several Marines from different training commands across the depot that provided the visitors with aspects of hazing, from both a commander’s perspective and a legal point-of-view.

The board addressed issues on how the Marine Corps deals with hazing. Hazing is not tolerated because it is not in good order and discipline and it contradicts the Corps’ values of honor, courage and commitment, according to Kerl.

According to interpreter Svitlana Budzhak-Jones, the visitors were impressed with the Marine Corps and their visit to the depot.

After the board, the visitors broke for lunch at Duncan Hall mess hall. They then made a visit to a recruit barracks to

see and learn about the recruits’ living conditions, and made their way to the recruit personal exchange where they stocked up on Marine Corps memorabilia.

The tour ended at the command museum, where they learned about Marine Corps history and traditions.

“The visit went extremely well,” said Kerl. “It was good, both for us and them. Anytime we have the opportunity to show who we are to other countries it is good. They said they learned a lot about us and that they had a great time here.”

Oleg Prysiachniuk, chairman of the military court of the Kyiv Garrison, also known as the Haidamaka Battalion of Slobidska Ukraine, said he believes the Marine Corps’ values are very important, and the Corps’ traditions foster high spirits in the Marines. Oleg also stated regarding all the visits to military installations across the country, “Here, I have seen the men of America.”

BRIEFS

Military testing offered at RAB

The Recruit Administration Branch offers the Defense Language Proficiency Test, Defense Language Aptitude Battery, and Armed Service Vocational Aptitude Battery tests to all military members, active and reservists. Testing is held every Friday at 8 a.m. Contact Mr. Rahmani or Mrs. Walters at (619) 524-6123 to schedule an appointment.

Online National Security Personnel System course

Now is your opportunity to familiarize yourself with the National Security Personnel System. Employees are encouraged to take this online course and print the certificate to be included into your DCPDS training record. Drop off a copy of your certificate at the HRO Building 7 West. Military supervisors and managers are also asked to drop a copy of the certificate.

The Department of Defense web-based course, NSPS 101 is now available at <http://www.cpmns.osd.mil/nsps/nsps101>.

This 45 to 60 minute course provides an excellent overview of NSPS, including classification, conversion, compensation, performance management and workforce shaping. One notable feature of the course is a conversion tool with salary calculator, where employees can determine their new career group, pay schedule, pay band and an estimate of their grade increase buy-in. Send any questions you may have via e-mail to Aixa Bueltel ataixa.bueltel@usmc.mil.

Voting assistance

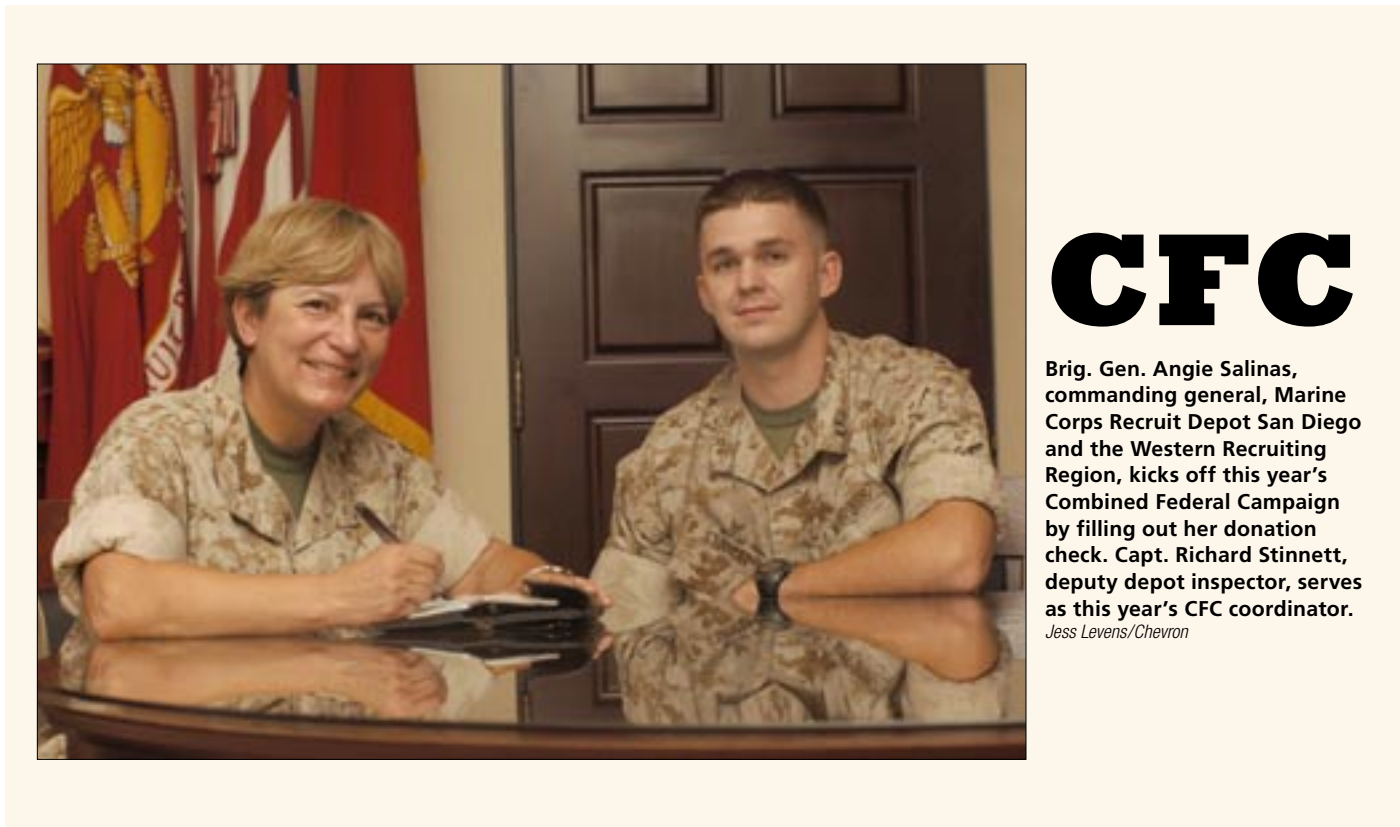
Voting is our right and a civic responsibility. Its importance cannot be overstated. Take the time to vote in the General Elections on Nov. 7. To vote you must be registered so you can receive an absentee ballot. Unit Voting Assistance Officers can help you with registration. It’s quick and easy. Please contact your UVAO if you would like to exercise your right to vote. Here are the UVAOs located aboard the Depot: **Command/Installation:** Ms. Botuchis at (619) 524-8735 **Headquarters and Service Battalion:** Capt. Serano at 524-1979 **Recruit Training Regiment:** Gunnery Sgt. Leese at 524-0367 **12th Marine Corps District:** Capt. Mestemacher at 524-5572

Recruiter assistants wanted

Recruiting Station Twin Cities, Minn., is looking for Marines, sergeant and below, to participate in the Command Recruiting Program as recruiter assistants for the following areas: Anoka, Chisago, Isanti, Sherburne and Wright County. Marines will be issued permissive TAD orders by parent commands if authorized. Promotion points, Meritorious Masts, Certificates of Commendation and many other incentives are available. For more information, contact Master Gunnery Sgt. Bautista at (763) 576-9049, or e-mail bautistaeg@marines.usmc.mil

SEND BRIEFS TO

jess.levens@usmc.mil. The Chevron staff reserves the right to publish only those briefs that comply with Department of Defense regulations and the standards of the U.S. Government.



CFC

Brig. Gen. Angie Salinas, commanding general, Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego and the Western Recruiting Region, kicks off this year’s Combined Federal Campaign by filling out her donation check. Capt. Richard Stinnett, deputy depot inspector, serves as this year’s CFC coordinator.

Jess Levens/Chevron

Voting assistance officers help Marines accomplish ‘civic duty’

BY LISA BOTUCHIS

MCRD/WRR adjutant and voting officer

Service members fill many roles professionally and personally. As a Marine, you are a rifleman first. You may also be a drill instructor, a recruiter or a member of the supporting establishment.

In your personal life, you might also fill the role of parent, son, daughter, brother, husband or wife. All of these roles are vitally important and serve a purpose. There is another role you fill however—that of U.S. citizen and as such, you are an eligible voter.

The U.S. voter wields a powerful weapon and that weapon is the vote. On November 7, you have the opportunity to execute one of your primary duties as a United States citizen and vote in the

general election, where 33 U.S. senators, the entire House of Representatives and 37 state governors will be elected.

Civic duty is defined as the responsibilities of citizens. What are some of our responsibilities as citizens? Primarily, they are respecting and obeying the laws of our country. We must also take part in addressing society’s problems in an informed manner. We should engage in an active process that goes beyond passive citizenship. We should promote democracy through our active participation in our democratic processes. There are many ways of performing our civic duties, but voting is, by far, one of the most important of our civic duties.

Your vote matters. Your vote will help determine who gets elected. Your vote will affect policy. Your vote will affect your future and the future of those who follow.

The bottom line is this: If you do not vote, you are losing an opportunity to make a viable difference in our country.

So how do you cast your vote? It’s quick and simple. If you cannot get to the polls in your hometown, you’ll need to vote as an absentee voter. This is as simple as completing a Federal Post Card Application and mailing it to your county registrar. Your unit voting assistance officer can help you complete the FPCA and mail it for you.

Voting equates power. Voting is your right, your privilege, and your responsibility. Voting is easy; it is free.

Educate yourself on the issues and the candidates. Cast your vote and make a difference.

You have a powerful voice in the election process. Make it heard. Join me and others by voting in the upcoming general election.

Marine Corps is perfect model of gender equality

BY PFC. ALICIA SMALL

Chevron staff

Women’s Equality Day was designated on Aug. 26, 1971, in commemoration of the 1920 passing of the 19th amendment, which granted women the right to vote in the United States.

Throughout history, women have fought for and proven themselves worthy of the many inalienable rights that were granted by the Constitution of the United States, and I believe they continue to move their way up in the world.

I believe women have come a long way and continue to break through into many normally male dominated areas of life.

Taking a major role in the economy, women now occupy some of the most important professions in the country. Several women hold public offices such

as mayor, councilwoman and presidential cabinet positions, like Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.

Women are taking on larger roles in the entertainment and sports industries.

Wilma Rudolph started the sports revolution by winning three gold medals in the Olympics in 1960, and Danica Patrick continues the legacy as a force to be reckoned with in the Indy Racing League.

Women in the Marine Corps are also great examples of the advances women have made.

Women began serving their country in the Marine Corps in 1918. Paving the way for women was Opha Mae Johnson, the first woman to join the Marine Corps. Following her lead later that year, 304 other females also served in the Marine Corps Reserves during World War I.

In 1943, Gen. Thomas Holcomb, the 17th Commandant of the Marine Corps, formed the Marine Corps’ Women Reserves.

By 1975, women were assigned to Fleet Marine Force units and could be in any occupational field aside from combat arms, air defense and anti-terrorism units.

Today women are serving in 93 percent of all occupational fields and 62 percent of all billets. Women make up 6.2 percent of the total Marine Corps strength and are doing their part in fighting the War on Terrorism.

After having just passed my year mark in this awesome organization, I reflect on the heritage of the women that came before me. I draw my inspiration to be successful from them and the many women Marines in my chain of command.

Combined Federal Campaign starts again

BY PFC. CHARLIE CHAVEZ

Chevron staff

For most people the time to be generous is for a holiday, birthday, anniversary or special occasion, and despite the old adage, to give is better to receive, I feel as though there isn’t much feeling behind our gifts.

Society has made a giant marketing scheme of what used to be a generous act. During holidays, people are required to buy gifts and the origin of feeling is no longer benevolent. To give with no expectation of anything in return is truly selfless and marks a person’s character.

Giving with anonymity through the Combined Federal Campaign – a government employee program for charity donations – is a good way to feel good about helping people that greatly benefit from the generosity. The people that need assistance and find refuge in the care of others, through the help of the CFC charities, will forever be touched by the philanthropy of government employees.

The long list of charities that the CFC includes makes it easy for donors to target a specific charity or program. As government employees, the need to make America a better place for everyone is part of our job and our mission.

In the beginning of 2006, the depot doubled its last year’s contributions with a total of \$313,962.24. This year the bar is set high for the depot to meet or exceed last year’s gross. With the help of everyone on the depot and the Western Recruiting Region the campaign has a good possibility to out do years past.

The CFC doesn’t require a specific amount as a donation and welcomes a one-time donation or an extended donation. The different payment options that the CFC gives make it easy for anyone to donate.

Daily I drive down the streets and see people parading signs claiming their need for help because of the rotten luck they have encountered. I ask myself, “How do I know that the money I will give them will not be used frivolously?” I don’t.

One of the ways to avoid allowing the donated money to be wasted is to donate to a charity that is accredited by the government through CFC.

Every person understands the feeling of being helpless or needing help and if everyone comes together to help those people in need, CFC will benefit more and more people.

Sgt. Joshua K. Miller, drill instructor, Platoon 1009, Company A, instructs Pvt. Daniel Diaz on how to better conquer an obstacle. Lance Cpl. Robert W. Beaver/Chevron



Recruits learn to lead at 12-Stall Crucible course

BY LANCE CPL. ROBERT W. BEAVER
Chevron Staff

Throughout boot camp, recruits learn what it takes to become leaders.

Many hours are spent studying Marine Corps knowledge such as leadership traits and principles, but recruits also get the opportunity to act as leaders in the field.

Covered in mud and physically and mentally fatigued, recruits are faced with challenges during the Crucible, a 54-hour field training evolution that tests recruits' stamina, leadership and teamwork abilities.

"The purpose of this obstacle is to instill leadership and get the recruits to work together to accomplish a mission," said Sgt. Rosell Floresmartinez, field instructor, Weapons Field Training Battalion, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

With several different obstacles spread throughout the Crucible training area on Camp Pendleton's, mountainous terrain, the 12-Stall obstacles challenge recruits to another level. 12-Stall derives its name from a series of small obstacles, each in an area that

looks similar to a horse stall.

Each obstacle may be different in design, but all have a similar task of transporting recruits and their equipment across an area with the aid of minimal props such as ropes, metal bars or wood planks.

Some areas of the obstacles are marked in red to simulate hazardous areas. If equipment touches the red area it becomes out of play. However, if a recruit touches red, he becomes a casualty and is eliminated from the obstacle. As a result, he must drag a dummy a short distance to simulate a casualty evacuation before he is able to continue the 12-Stall.

Drill instructors hand pick individuals to be leaders throughout boot camp. However, the recruits who aren't usually leaders are placed in charge during the 12-Stall. The new squad leaders are given 20 minutes to devise a plan and a course of action for each obstacle and to accomplish the mission.

"This gives recruits who aren't normally the guide or squad leaders a chance to lead," said Sgt. Kabirum Labaran, drill instructor, Platoon 1009, Company A. "This also gives them the chance to feel the pressure that

comes when being in a leadership position. In turn, it will make them better followers."

Recruit Eric D. Currie, Platoon 1009, Co. A, got the opportunity to lead other recruits on a 12-Stall obstacle when his company went through the Crucible Aug. 3, marking his first time in a leadership position during boot camp.

His mission was to get a barrel and all the members of his squad across a simulated body of water using only two metal poles and a horizontal plank of wood that was positioned five feet above the ground and went across the water.

"It took a lot of thinking to do this. I got a lot of help from the other recruits," said Currie, an 18-year-old native of Saginaw, Mich. "But I got a deeper sense of confidence in myself when we accomplished the mission."

The 12-Stall is only the beginning of the leadership challenges Currie and his fellow recruits will face throughout their Marine Corps careers. When they find themselves in leadership positions, they will be expected to finish assigned tasks and missions quickly and with good results, which is why the 12-Stall obstacle is designed to help them think on their feet in tough conditions.



A Company A recruit sets up in a tunnel, ready to help his squad solve its obstacle. Pfc. Charlie Chavez/Chevron



Pvt. Joseph Harrison, Platoon 1009, Company A, drags Fred the Dummy away from combat. When recruits fail or are eliminated from an obstacle, they must drag Fred in order to see what can spawn from mistakes in real combat. To the recruits, Fred represents a wounded platoon mate. Lance Cpl. Robert W. Beaver/Chevron



A squad of recruits embarks on the 12-Stall obstacle during the Crucible. This particular obstacle features a large rocky area to simulate water and a wooden plank that sits several feet above the ground. The recruits' mission is to get everyone, plus a barrel, across the obstacle using two metal poles and a rope provided to them. Lance Cpl. Robert W. Beaver/Chevron



Company A recruits practice evacuating a wounded Marine from combat. Pfc. Charlie Chavez/Chevron



During the Crucible, recruits have their feet checked for blisters and other injuries. Lance Cpl. Robert W. Beaver/Chevron

RECRUIT SPOTLIGHT

Co. A Marine serves like father, fueled by death of friends in embassy bombing

BY PFC. ALICIA SMALL
Chevron staff

Private First Class Gerald B. Roller, Company A, Platoon 1015, graduates Marine Corps Recruit Training today to join the thousands before him who have fought to defend the Constitution of the United States of America. Since the age of nine, Roller said he knew he was going to join the military. His father was in the U.S. Army and was stationed at the U.S. Embassy in Kenya. On Aug. 7, 1998, it was "Take-Your-Son-to-Work Day" at the embassy. Roller was in Korea with his mother at the time and was unable to accompany his father to work.

However, two of his friends, who were about the same age as him, were able to go with their dad, who also worked at the embassy in Kenya. It was on that day, four men who were believed, according to globalsecurity.org, to be followers of Osama Bin Laden, bombed the embassy, which resulted in the death of his two friends.

Roller's father lived through the incident unscathed. His father's service to the U.S., culminated with his two friends' deaths caused by terrorists, impressed on him a sense of duty to defend democracy and the lives of the innocent, said Roller. Roller's father inspired him to do his best, and because of this, he decided he could achieve his full potential by becoming a Marine. He said he thought highly of everything his father had accomplished, and needed to do his part for freedom.

Moving every two years with his father, he adapted early to the military lifestyle of leaving friends and loved ones behind for his father to accomplish a mission. Even though Roller was used to moving, he found it difficult to leave his mother when he left for Marine Corps boot camp at the age of 18. Due to the close relationship he and his mother shared, Roller had a hard time being away from her when he arrived to MCRD. However, his senior drill instructor Staff Sgt. Brian A. Kiraly, counseled him and helped him overcome his homesickness. "When Roller was going through his homesickness problems, I just guided his thoughts back to what was important right here, right now—which was recruit training and his goal of becoming a Marine," said Kiraly. "I told him to use the time away from his family to



Pfc. Gerald B. Roller, Platoon 1015, Company A, listens to instructions during swim qualification. Pfc. Alicia Small/Chevron

reflect on what he admires and loves most about them," said Kiraly. "It appeared that after talking to him a couple times, his homesickness began to fade and he seemed to focus his efforts on becoming a Marine." Roller participated in the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps for four years, which he claims helped to teach him to respect authority. "Being on the drill team in ROTC helped Roller when it came to boot camp," said Kiraly, a native of Perrysburg, Ohio. "He had a good understanding of drill, which allowed him to excel." Drill instructors kept Roller and the other recruits on their toes as they constantly learned something about being Marines. One of the elements Roller came to enjoy was not knowing what to expect next from his drill instructors. After Roller's father retired from the Army, they settled in the small town of Bellevue, Neb., where Roller said his days were fairly monotonous and predictable. He said basic training provided him with a welcomed change of pace. "Roller was motivated and enthusiastic since day one," said Kiraly. "He led from the front and kept his enthusi-

asm up, while other recruits became careless. He showed his commitment to the platoon by teaching other recruits Marine Corps knowledge, and tried to keep them motivated whenever morale was low." During the third week of training, he found more motivation to do well in boot camp when his sister had a child. "It made me want to do my best and graduate as fast as possible, so I could get home to see my nephew and be a good role model to him," said Roller. Out of all the things he gained during boot camp, Roller felt he had learned more respect for the drill instructors and their sacrifices. "I appreciate the drill instructors because they spend more time with the platoon than with their own families," said Roller. "They give their all every day despite the fact that some days the platoon doesn't reciprocate the effort." Fulfilling his patriotic duty and helping the Marine Corps accomplish its mission of defending the Constitution of the United States, Roller is now off to mold together his training from boot camp and his love, since high school, of welding to master his trade as a metal worker in the Marine Corps.

S. Robert (Rob) Licker

PARADE REVIEWING OFFICER

S. Robert (Bob) Licker was born in New York City Nov. 15, 1931, and moved to New Jersey when he was nine-years-old where he attended elementary through high school. During his senior year, Licker was influenced by his history teacher and his experiences as a Marine officer during World War II. The positive influence he had on his life led Licker to join the Marine Corps Reserves and he was activated with the 21st Infantry Battalion in New Jersey when the Korean War began. After four weeks of accelerated training at Camp Pendleton, Calif., his group was sent to Korea as part of the 2nd Replacement Draft, landing in Wonson on Nov. 10, 1950. He was assigned to Signal Bn. and immediately transferred to Hagaru until the Chinese attacked. In keeping with the Marine Corps' philosophy of "every man a rifleman," he took part in repelling the enemy

at the Hagaru airstrip, reinforcing the line of Company H and Co. I, and other actions. He was assigned as an infantry replacement with Co. A, 1st Bn., 7th Marines and participated in ground actions on the road from Hagaru to Hamhung. Licker remained in Korea with Co. A for 12 additional months where he participated in combat actions around Pohang (Guerrilla Hunt), Operations Killer and Ripper, Hill 399, the Spring Offensive and the "Punch Bowl" including Hill 673 as a fire team leader, 60 mm mortar man and company and battalion runner until he returned home in 1951. His enlistment was completed at Camp Lejeune, N.C. as a 60 mm mortar squad leader. Following military service, Licker was employed in the aerospace field, became a part-time police officer in the towns of Riverdale and Butler N. J., and obtained a Bachelor of Science degree at Ramapo College, N. J. He was president of the North Jersey Police Revolver League for 14 years until relocating to California in 1978. In California, he was employed as

a quality control engineer, director of quality assurance and vice president of product assurance for various aerospace firms. During this period, he completed post-graduate management courses, was active in the American Society of Quality Control where he became the president of the San Fernando Valley Chapter and also held several offices in management clubs. He retired in June 2001 as director of Product Assurance, Teledyne Electronic Technologies, to his home in San Dimas, Calif. Licker is a member of the Veteran's of Foreign Wars, American Legion, 1st Marine Division Association, Disabled American Veterans, and Able Co. 1st Bn., 7th Marines, Marine Corps Association and is a member of the coordinating committee for biennial reunions of the 1st Bn., 7th Marines Korea 1950-1953. Licker joined the Chosin Few in 1990, and subsequently become the treasurer, vice president and president of the Col. William E. Barber Chapter of Orange County. In 2003, he became a national director of the Chosin Few,



Inc. and, after being re-elected in 2006, he became the president of the national organization. He is married to his wife, Mickey, and has four children, six grandchildren and one great grandchild who reside in California, Texas, Georgia, and Tennessee.



Platoon 1016 COMPANY HONOR MAN Pfc. A. A. Ypina Paris, Texas Recruited by Gunnery Sgt. G. Rowland
Platoon 1010 SERIES HONOR MAN Pfc. N. A. McAdams Roseville, Minn. Recruited by Sgt. S. R. Filson
Platoon 1009 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. T. W. Hood Choctaw, Okla. Recruited by Sgt. S. Miers
Platoon 1011 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. R. Mena Jr. San Antonio Recruited by Staff Sgt. C. A. Poree
Platoon 1013 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. P. J. Heath Brownwood, Texas Recruited by Staff Sgt. T. C. Harvey
Platoon 1014 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. J. B. Dehaven Denver Recruited by Staff Sgt. M. De La Peña
Platoon 1015 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. J. R. Rodriguez Fort Worth, Texas Recruited by Sgt. R. J. Hernandez
Platoon 1009 HIGH SHOOTER (239) Pfc. J. L. Hoffer Aurora, Colo. Recruited by Staff Sgt. J. R. Ortegon
Platoon 1015 HIGH PFT (300) Pfc. J. R. Rodriguez Fort Worth, Texas Recruited by Sgt. R. J. Hernandez

ALPHA COMPANY

FIRST RECRUIT TRAINING BATTALION
Commanding Officer Lt. Col. B. D. Kerl
Sergeant Major Sgt. Maj. A. A. Spadaro
Chaplain Lt. Cmdr. J. E. West
Battalion Drill Master Staff Sgt. C. B. Bull
COMPANY A
Commanding Officer Capt. R. V. Valles
Company First Sergeant 1st Sgt. M. G. Olson
SERIES 1009
Series Commander 1st Lt. A. C. Triviso
Series Gunnery Sergeant Staff Sgt. A. R. Ferguson
SERIES 1013
Series Commander Capt. C. Mcleod
Series Gunnery Sergeant Gunnery Sergeant. L. Abanto
PLATOON 1009
Senior Drill Instructor Sgt. J. Altamirano
Drill Instructors Sgt. K. M. Labaran
Sgt. H. K. Miller
Sgt. H. C. Milbin
*Pfc. E. L. Adams
Pfc. R. Aguirre
Pfc. M. A. Aleman
Pvt. J. A. Anderson
Pfc. E. J. Baca
Pfc. R. C. Bacigalupo
Pfc. M. P. Baker
Pfc. M. P. Barret
Pvt. D. J. Basye
Pvt. J. C. Bennett
Pvt. S. P. Benson
Pvt. J. E. Bernard
Pfc. J. C. Fellner
Pfc. M. C. Brown
Pvt. Z. D. Brown
Pvt. J. W. Buisman
Pfc. W. M. Burkhardt
Pvt. J. J. Castro
Pvt. B. R. Cates
Pvt. S. D. Cazzell
Pvt. K. J. Christiansen
Pvt. J. S. Manning
Pvt. E. D. Currie
Pfc. T. D. Curtis
Pvt. D. J. Diaz
Pfc. A. S. Dimick
Pvt. N. A. Dittmer
Pfc. C. J. Doyle
Pfc. J. L. Dykeman
Pfc. C. L. D. Edmondson
Pfc. A. Jacobo
Pvt. D. Ferguson
Pfc. B. G. Garcia
Pvt. R. A. Glascoth
Pvt. C. Gonzalez
Pfc. J. J. Griffin
Pfc. A. Grijalva
Pfc. C. C. Gross
Pfc. M. A. Guerrero
Pvt. M. R. Guglielberg
Pvt. D. S. Hannigan
Pvt. D. J. Hardwick
Pfc. A. T. Harris
Pvt. J. O. Harrison
Pvt. E. N. Hernandez
*Pfc. J. L. Hoffer
Pvt. M. N. Holmgren
Pfc. T. W. Hood
Pvt. M. O. Jackson
Pvt. F. C. Jahn
Pvt. N. L. Jensen
Pvt. R. A. Kenyon
Pvt. B. A. Kimery
Pfc. S. P. Kinney
Pvt. C. C. Kuban
Pvt. B. W. Lee
Pfc. C. Lee
Pfc. J. G. Logan
Pfc. J. G. Logan
Pfc. A. Mackay
Pfc. E. D. McEntire
Pvt. M. P. Medina
Pvt. W. T. Medley
Pvt. L. R. Mendez
Pfc. E. S. Mitchell
Pfc. M. Q. Monarreslopez
Pfc. M. W. Morgan
Pvt. M. L. Mrook
Pfc. J. S. Nelson
Pfc. D. M. Newcomb
Pfc. J. Nosal
Pvt. N. E. Nye
Pvt. J. A. Olivares
Pvt. C. L. Olson
Pvt. A. P. Olson
*Pfc. J. D. Pawloski
Pfc. J. I. Perez
Pfc. J. L. Peters
Pvt. R. L. Pfau
Pvt. C. J. Polome
Pvt. S. L. Ruiz
Pfc. M. L. Tarkey
Pvt. C. A. Wolverton
PLATOON 1010
Senior Drill Instructor Sgt. C. M. Cartagena
Drill Instructors Sgt. N. Downey
Sgt. R. Rangel
Pfc. T. T. Adams
Pfc. R. S. Aday
Pvt. C. S. Alexander
Pvt. J. A. Arnold
Pvt. D. R. Baune
Pvt. L. W. Bedell
Pvt. R. J. Bielwaski
Pvt. G. A. Bird
Pfc. J. Blank
Pfc. L. Blank
Pvt. M. C. Blocher
Pfc. C. M. Bordages
Pvt. T. A. Bradford
Pvt. R. S. Briere
Pfc. T. E. Brosey
Pfc. D. A. Brown
Pvt. A. R. Burns
Pvt. A. J. Bynaker
Pvt. A. L. Cadena Jr.
Pvt. B. Callahan
Pvt. M. Cardenas
Pvt. C. A. Carlson
Pvt. J. L. Carr
Pvt. A. C. Carrilloamado
Pvt. R. D. Choice
Pfc. J. T. Collin
Pfc. P. G. Correa
Pfc. G. A. Craig
Pfc. T. R. Heuser
Pfc. T. L. Crose
Pfc. M. S. Davis
Pvt. F. A. Delira
Pfc. D. L. Dixon
Pvt. A. W. Duntley
*Pfc. J. W. Ellison
Pfc. L. S. English
Pfc. P. D. Fauchaux
Pfc. J. C. Fells
Pvt. R. Kenyon
Pfc. C. J. Kidd
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Pfc. S. E. Abernathy
Pvt. M. W. Addington
*Pfc. L. R. Bennetbea-vercase
Pvt. W. L. Bisset
Pfc. K. J. Bocari
Pfc. B. M. Bowling
Pvt. K. L. Braun
Pvt. J. W. Christman
Pvt. G. Clark
Pvt. L. C. Clark
Pfc. A. E. Clements
Pfc. E. D. Colley
Pfc. G. F. Contreras
Pfc. E. J. Cooke
Pvt. S. Oram
Pvt. M. A. Cuellar
Pvt. G. G. Davis
Pvt. K. R. Davis
Pvt. C. A. Delaney
Pvt. N. A. Denny
Pfc. G. A. Dozark
Pvt. L. R. Eisenhour
Pvt. M. A. Emond
Pvt. D. Esparza
Pvt. J. P. Esquivel
Pfc. M. H. Euchner
Pfc. M. Flores
Pfc. J. R. Fousek
Pvt. J. Franco
Pvt. B. D. Fulton
Pfc. C. Garcia
Pfc. M. C. Garcia
Pfc. R. Wilson
Pfc. B. J. Gil
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Pvt. K. F. Green
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Pvt. J. R. Hernandez
Pvt. J. A. Hubbard
Pfc. R. Cordova
Pvt. C. R. Davis
*Pfc. J. B. Dehaven
Pvt. M. A. Delao
Pvt. D. P. Dewitt
Pfc. A. I. Diamanti
Pvt. B. S. Dominguez
Pvt. D. Dorsey
Pfc. S. C. Elliot
Pvt. E. S. Sharp
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Pvt. C. Schaumann
Pfc. J. R. Schreiner
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*Pfc. H. M. Vuong
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Pvt. W. T. Womack
Pvt. J. L. Zavala Jr.
Pfc. S. E. Abernathy
Pvt. M. W. Addington
Pvt. J. B. Fraga Jr.
Pvt. D. J. Ayala
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Pfc. R. H. Gigliotti
Pfc. J. T. Gilbert
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Pfc. C. R. Moreno
Pfc. K. D. Morrison Jr.
Pfc. J. M. Muthig
Pvt. J. M. Neel
Pvt. J. T. Neel
Pvt. E. M. Nevin
Pfc. B. Northrup
Pvt. B. Obando
Pvt. V. M. Onell Jr.
Pvt. R. Ortega Jr.
Pfc. A. M. Padilla
Pfc. M. A. Padillaserratos
Pfc. A. S. Pardee
Pvt. D. Perezromero
Pvt. D. K. Pierce
Pvt. A. A. Ponomarev
Pvt. M. J. Pralles
Pvt. C. D. Mulder
Pfc. D. O. Purdy
Pvt. P. C. Quintana
Pfc. D. D. Richards Jr.
Pvt. J. E. Ritcheson
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KEEPER OF THE CUP



Rachel M. Dickinson, Commanding General’s Cup coordinator, moved to San Diego in 1999 from England to take a job as an aide at the fitness center here. Pfc. Charlie Chavez/Photo illustration

Coordinator from across the pond keeps yearlong tourney up and running

BY PFC. CHARLIE CHAVEZ
Chevron staff

The Commanding General’s Cup tournament has been a depot tradition since the 1950s. Support for the program has continued to grow through the dedication of Marine Corps Community Services and the athletic program coordinators. Since the arrival of the current CG’s Cup coordinator, Rachel M. Dickinson, the program’s participation has grown. Dickinson, a native of Chalfont St. Peter, Buckingham Shire, England, moved to San Diego in August 1999 when she was offered a job as a recreational aide in the fitness center on the depot. “Since my father was in the (United States) Navy, I was given a choice to remain in England or to come to America,” said Dickinson. “I had two choices of where to work in America; the first was a library in Ohio and the second was a fitness center in California. Of course

I went for California.” During her time in England, Dickinson coordinated intramural sports and worked with youth sports programs. After her arrival in the U.S., she was soon highlighted as an experienced sports coordinator and was hired by Athletic Director Renaud R. Villedieu, MCCS. “Before Rachel came, there wasn’t much participation from the commands in the CG’s Cup sports because they would play after work hours,” said Villedieu. “The commanding general at the time, (Lt. Gen. Jan C. Huly), decided to make Tuesdays the day for sports, and that’s how it began.” Once the sports were moved to daytime hours, interest in the CG’s Cup tournament sparked. A council of members was established from the depot battalions and other work sections that participated, said Dickinson. Dickinson helped the program to move in a more prominent direction during her six-and-a-half years on the depot. She set up the fields, maintained rosters and lined up the jerseys, trophies and awards. “I basically count on her to be the liaison for all of the participants in the sports,” said Villedieu, who is

from Malibu, Calif. “She has done outstanding working with everyone.” Service members throughout the depot have noticed the dedication from the hard-working coordinator who keeps the games going. Camaraderie and competitive spirits are high throughout the depot because of the CG’s sports and the coordinator’s involvement in keeping them organized, said Master Sgt. Anthony Hernandez, Headquarters & Service Battalion, administration chief from San Antonio, Texas. The number one reason sports are conducted and continuously held is the service members and their participation, said co-worker Rafael Aceves, depot varsity sports coordinator. “She does everything in her power to make sure things go right,” said Aceves, a native of Tijuana, Mexico. “You won’t always find a girl like her. She gives 100 percent all the time.” With every passing year, the competitiveness sparked by the hard work of Dickinson is rewarded by the struggle of the military services on the depot for the coveted CG’s Cup.

CURRENT CG’S CUP STANDINGS

	Team	Placement points	Entry points	Total
1st	H&S	99	69	168
2nd	RTR	79	64	143
3rd	COAST GUARD	38	64	102
4th	DISTRICT	18	73	91
5th	NAVY	0	34	34